EXHIBIT F

Symyx News Release: "Dow and Symyx Announce Discovery of New Class of Polyolefin Catalyst" (March 31, 2003)

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For Release on 3/31/03 at 8:00 a.m. EST

DOW AND SYMYX ANNOUNCE DISCOVERY OF NEW CLASS OF POLYOLEFIN CATALYST

- **Validates use of high-throughput screening methodology as time-saving research tool**
- **Discovery of next generation polyolefin catalysts greatly accelerated**

MIDLAND, Mich. and SANTA CLARA, Calif. (March 31, 2003) -- The Dow Chemical Company and Symyx Technologies, Inc. announced that, for the first time, a new class of single-site catalysts for olefin polymerization has been discovered through the application of fully integrated high-throughput screening methodology. The discovery of the new amide-ether based hafnium catalyst class validates the use of the technique as a time-saving research tool, and has broad implications for Dow's ability to greatly accelerate the discovery and commercialization of next generation catalysts for olefin polymerization. The research results will be published in the April 9, 2003, issue of the Journal of the American Chemical Society (JACS), Vol. 125; Issue 14.

"This is a very exciting first discovery coming out of our collaboration with Symyx," said Kurt Swogger, vice president of polyolefins research and development at Dow. "Catalyst discovery is the lifeblood of the polyolefin industry and Dow's legacy as a leader in this field is further reinforced as a result of this important discovery."

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"Our work with Dow has been a truly collaborative effort and we are pleased that our high throughput screening methodology has played an important role in the development of this new catalyst class," said Steven Goldby, chairman and chief executive officer of Symyx Technologies, Inc.

Conventional methods of polyolefin catalyst research involve an expensive, time-consuming "trial and error" process with unpredictable and often disappointing results. Using the fully integrated high throughput primary and secondary screening methodology, however, Dow and Symyx researchers are now able to analyze large quantities of metal–ligand combinations, identify the most promising catalytically active systems, and reject those that are inactive, all in a matter of hours. As a result, a much broader range of catalysts candidates and conditions can be evaluated, allowing time and resources to be directed toward maximizing the potential of the most promising ones.

Dow and Symyx have collaborated in the field of high-throughput discovery of polyolefin catalysts since January 1999. Dow is actively developing several catalysts discovered by Symyx under that collaboration.

"Any researcher involved in the synthesis of a new catalyst knows how slow the process can be, taking anywhere from five to ten years from idea to commercialization," said James C. Stevens, senior scientist, polyolefins and elastomers at Dow, and co-author of the JACS article. "This new screening methodology can open the door to the development of a whole class of new materials at a faster pace than we've ever known before."

In the case of the new amide-ether based hafnium catalyst, it took only a few hours for the primary screening to analyze 384 metal-ligand combinations and identify 10 interesting 1-octene polymerization catalysts. Larger scale secondary screening experiments performed on a focused 96-member library led to the development of a new high temperature LLDPE (linear low-density polyethylene) catalyst class based upon a non-metallocene ligand. Large-scale batch reactor experiments further validated the performance features of the new catalyst and the high-throughput screening approach.

"Single-site, non-metallocene catalysis is a developing area and one that holds great promise for polyolefins research and development," Stevens noted. "Now that we have the ability to analyze these catalysts at the rate of about one thousand a day, new polyolefin catalysts can be discovered and optimized at unprecedented rates."

Dow is at the forefront of polyolefin research and development and its breakthrough technologies such as INSITE* and AFFINITY* are the building blocks for many consumer and industrial products used around the world today. In 2002, Dow's INSITE* and AFFINITY* technologies were recognized with a National Medal of Technology Award by President George W. Bush.

About The Dow Chemical Company

Dow is a leading science and technology company that provides innovative chemical, plastic and agricultural products and services to many essential consumer markets. With annual sales of $27 billion, Dow serves customers in more than 170 countries and a wide range of markets that are vital to human progress, including food, transportation, health and medicine, personal and home care, and building and construction, among others. Committed to the principles of Sustainable Development, Dow and its approximately 50,000 employees seek to balance economic, environmental and social responsibilities. For further information, visit Dow's website at www.dow.com.

About Symyx Technologies, Inc.

Symyx develops and applies high-speed combinatorial technologies to the discovery of materials for life science, chemical and electronics applications. Symyx provides research services through its Industry Collaborations business, licenses discovered materials and patents through its Licensing business, and sells select instruments and software through its Discovery Tools® business. Approximately 25 leading life science, chemical and electronic companies are among Symyx' base of worldwide partners, customers, and licensees. Symyx currently has over 90 issued patents and more than 390 patent applications pending worldwide. Information about Symyx, including reports and other information filed by the Company with the Securities and Exchange Commission, is available at www.symyx.com. "Symyx", the logo, "Discovery Tools," "Library Studio," "Endeavor," and "PPR" are registered trademarks and servicemarks of Symyx Technologies, Inc.

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